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annotated translations of Aristotle, the first volume to appear being an excellent version, with commentary, of *Metaphysics* i, by G. Colle" (p. 153).

The Classical Association by the maintenance of this series renders a needed and valuable service to students and teachers of the classics. These volumes should be accessible to every teacher of Greek or Latin in the United States; it would be interesting to know how far such a condition is now realized.

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*The Municipalities of the Roman Empire.* By JAMES S. REID.  
Cambridge, 1913. Pp. 548. \$3.75 net.

Undoubtedly the historians of the Roman republic and empire have in the past given far too little prominence to the part played by the municipalities. This is partly due to the fact that our knowledge of them is so largely derived from the inscriptions. Since, however, the inscriptional material has been recovered and studied, we are better able to appreciate how great a part they played in Roman development. Not only did Rome arise as a city-state, but even to the last her people and her statesmen continued to think, to some extent, in terms of city-states. Beginning as a city-state herself, Rome used the city-state, or municipality, as an engine of conquest and an instrument of government. She won her hegemony in Italy, not merely by the sword, but by championing municipal institutions and developing city-states wherever possible. These municipalities, thus created, not only looked to Rome for support against enemies, but acted as a solvent to destroy the older groupings of the people in confederacies and leagues. Rome, indeed, never became fully mistress of Italy till she had municipalized it from end to end.

Having seen the utility of the city-state in Italy, Rome was not slow to apply the lesson to the territories outside of Italy that fell under her dominion. In Gaul and Spain she set herself to do what she had done within her own peninsula and substitute for the old tribal and national institutions municipal institutions of the familiar type.

In the East, where Hellenistic culture prevailed, Rome found the countries already permeated with the idea of the city-state. Here she had comparatively little to do in the way of new foundations, but here, as in the West, she made the municipality an instrument of government. In the East and West alike it is not too much to say, as does Dr. Reid, that "the city" was "the sole ultimate constituent element in the structure of the ancient Roman empire." The modern student tends to think of a province as a definite extent of territory ruled by a governor. The Roman thought of it rather as a group of municipalities supervised in certain matters by a resident Roman magistrate.

Since the municipality thus played so large a role in Roman history, Dr. Reid has rendered no small service by his able and scholarly survey. The work is the outcome of several series of lectures, delivered in the first instance in the University of London and afterward with some changes as the "Lowell

lectures" in Boston and in Columbia University. The purpose of the volume, as defined by the author, is "to provide students with a survey of the Roman empire, regarded in one of its most important aspects, that of a vast federation of commonwealths, retaining many of the characteristics of the old so-called 'city-state.' " In fulfilment of this purpose, Dr. Reid first surveys the different parts of the empire, beginning with Italy, showing the use made of the municipality in each. Then follows a chapter dealing with the internal organization of the municipalities, and the work concludes with a brief consideration of the decline of the municipalities and its disastrous consequences for the empire. It is, indeed, to this decline that the author would attribute the final ruin of the empire. One must suspect that it is doubtless owing to the necessary brevity of the treatment that this decline is treated too much as an independent cause, whereas it was itself the result of other and more deep-seated causes. Yet its importance was undoubtedly very great.

Upon the whole Dr. Reid has performed his difficult task with great success, and his work is a most welcome contribution to the literature of ancient history. It is to be regretted that space could not have been found for an appendix containing some of the more important laws and inscriptions to which frequent reference is made. This lack will, however, be the less felt as some of these are now readily available for the student in the excellent work of Mr. Hardy.

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*Roman Ideas of Deity.* By W. WARDE FOWLER. London: Macmillan, 1914. Pp. 167. \$1.40.

This series of lectures on religious tendencies at Rome in the first century before the Christian era is an interesting contribution to the history of monotheistic ideas. The author has endeavored to sift the strange medley of religious and philosophical ideas that prevailed in this period, with a view to determining what were the vital beliefs of distinctly Roman origin and how these tended toward a belief in one supreme deity. The difficulties of such a task are twofold: it is essential to separate native Roman ideas from Greek mythology and philosophy, and also, in the use of most literary evidence, to draw the line between formal homage to defunct conceptions and moribund deities and sincere religious beliefs.

The detailed study of Roman cults which this author has made, and his thorough acquaintance with the whole literature, give his conclusions an undoubted value. His lectures are all suggestive, but in the case of the "Domestic Deities" (Lecture I), and the discussion of the Jupiter cult which follows, the evidence is slight for a convincing argument. The third lecture, "Cosmic Ideas of Deity," contains a particularly illuminating treatment of that somewhat baffling conception, Fortuna. In two lectures of very special interest Fowler traces the rise of the emperor cult at Rome and points out an